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EG&G ROCKY FLATS

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: February 12, 1991 OE-91.7

TO: T. C. Greengard, Remediation Programs Division, T130B, X7121

FROM: O. Erlich, Remediation Programs Division, T130B, X5959 Olga Erlich

SUBJECT: WATER AND OTHER RESIDUALS OBTAINED DURING THE BENCH SCALE TREATABILITY STUDIES PERFORMED ON THE OU2 SURFACE WATER

EG&G Environmental Restoration/Remediation Programs Division performed a bench scale treatability study for OU2 surface water per the Interagency Agreement. The purpose of this memo is to inform you of the current status of residuals generated in the study and to request Department of Energy (DOE) input since these residuals must be disposed of.

Treatment evaluation tests were performed at the subcontractor facilities outside of Rocky Flats Plant during the end of October and the beginning of November. During these tests wash water and additional residuals such as contaminated glassware, wipe cloths, and gloves were produced. Upon completion of the tests, all of the above material was stored in eight 55 gal. drums (five w/water solution and three w/solids) at the subcontractor's analytical facility on a temporary basis.

A radiation survey was conducted of the laboratory facility. Results of the survey are shown in the attachment and summarized below:

1. A beta/gamma survey meter indicated that both beta and gamma radioactivity was below a detection limit of 0.2 mr/hr in barrels containing solid waste or in the carboys used to contain sample water.

2. Sampling and analysis of gross alpha and beta activity of the barrels containing the liquid residuals determined that only Barrel #5 contained had a gross alpha activity (15 pCi/liter) above the detection limit of the analytical method. None of the barrels had a gross beta activity above the detection limits.

3. An alpha survey meter did not detect any surface contamination. Likewise wipe tests indicated that gross alpha/beta concentrations were below laboratory threshold limits of 200 pCi/wipe

Further characterization of the residuals will probably be required since they were not analyzed for organics. Currently work is in progress to characterize these residuals in reference to RCRA or CERCLA and to determine the regulatory responsibilities associated with them.

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Department of Energy input is needed at this time in order to clarify whether onsite or offsite disposal will be required. This problem is likely to occur with future treatability studies; for that reason an overall DOE policy concerning these residuals could be necessary to avoid future liability and contractual problems.

OE:plf

Attachment:
As Stated

Distribution

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